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UNCLAS SAN JOSE 000980

STPDTS

USDA/FAS FOR STEVE FROGGETT, OES/ENRC FOR DANIELLE WOOD, EEB/TPP/MTAA/ABT FOR MARCELLA SZYMANSKI

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>EAGR SENV</u> <u>ETRD</u> <u>TBIO</u> <u>CS</u>

SUBJECT: COSTA RICA: IICA MEETING FOR BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL LIABILITY

AND REDRESS

**REF: STATE 114855** 

Post contacted Alex May, Director of the Biotechnology Department of the Costa Rican Ministry of Agriculture and local point of contact for the Cartagena Protocol. Mr. May informed post that he is planning to attend the IICA workshop in Chile. He also mentioned that the Ministry of Agriculture is trying to obtain funding for a Costa Rican official to participate in the Kuala Lumpur event. If funding is obtained, he will attend the Kuala Lumpur meeting as local point of contact of the Cartagena Protocol. Mr. May mentioned that his understanding is that the goal of the meeting in Chile is to continue the analysis of the issue but he believes that reaching a consensus or agreement during that meeting will be difficult. BRENNAN